

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BRUSSE 02244 161833Z

73

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 NEA-10 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 ACDA-19 OIC-04 CU-04

SAM-01 DRC-01 /154 W

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R 161800Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 491

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRUSSELS 2244

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: CSCE, ITALIAN PROPOSAL FOR MEDITERRANEAN DECLARATION

REF: STATE 73509

1. SUMMARY. BELGIAN FONOFF OFFICIALS INFORM US (A) THAT DRAFT WORKING PAPERS FOR THE POLITICAL DIRECTORS MEETING IN BONN APRIL 18-19 TAKE NOTE OF US OBJECTIONS TO THE ITALIAN PROPOSAL FOR A SEPARATE CSCE DECLARATION ON THE MEDITERRANEAN, (B) THAT BELGIANS ARE NOT ENTHUSIASTIC OVER SEPARATE DECLARATION IDEA, AND (C) THAT FURTHER EC-9 ACTION WOULD BEST BE DELAYED UNTIL AFTER NAC SESSION APRIL 22. END SUMMARY.

2. EMBASSY OFFICERS APPROACHED CSCE EXPERT SEGESESSER AS ONLY OFFICIAL AVAILABLE APRIL 12 AND EAST-WEST ADVISER HERPIN APRIL 16 TO CARRY OUT REFTEL INSTRUCTIONS. AMBASSADOR HERPIN
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PAGE 02 BRUSSE 02244 161833Z

SAID BELGIANS REGRET ITALIAN INITIATIVE AND GIVE IT NO MORE

THAN PASSIVE SUPPORT. HE SAW IDEA OF SEPARATE DECLARATION AS INVITING OTHER SEPARATE DECLARATIONS SERVING SPECIAL INTERESTS, E. G. COMPARABLE INITIATIVE STIMULATED BY THE USSR RELATING TO EASTERN EUROPE.

3. HERPIN SAID US OBJECTIONS ARE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT IN WORKING PAPERS BEING PREPARED FOR APRIL 18-19 MEETING OF EC-9 POLITICAL DIRECTORS. HE HOPES EC-9 WILL AGREE TO POSTPONE FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF ISSUE UNTIL AFTER APRIL 22 NAC SESSION WHERE NATO-15 WILL BE ABLE TO DISCUSS IT. HERPIN SAID THAT BEST US TACTIC WOULD BE TO STRESS POSITIVE ASPECTS OF DEALING WITH MEDITERRANEAN INTERESTS IN AN APPROPRIATE MANNER IN CSCE DOCUMENTS RATHER THAN TO BEGIN WITH FRONTAL ATTACK ON SEPARATE DECLARATIONS CONCEPT, WHICH HAS FRENCH SUPPORT.

4. SEGESSER EARLIER TOLD US THAT BELGIANS ARE WEDDED TO NEITHER THE ITALIAN TEXT NOR THE IDEA OF A SEPARATE DECLARATION ON THE MEDITERRANEAN. HE SAID THE TEXT, WHICH HE TERMED AS INNOCUOUS AS REGARDS SUBSTANCE, COULD WELL BE CUT UP AND INSERTED AS APPROPRIATE IN CSCE DOCUMENTS EMANATING FROM BASKETS 8 AND II, AS FORESEEN IN HELSINKI.

5. SEGESSER NOTED THAT THE ITALIAN TEXT HAD BEEN APPROVED ON MARCH 12-13 BY THE NINE POLITICAL DIRECTOS, WHO ALSO DECIDED THAT IT SOULD BE GIVEN TO THE US BUT NOT TO THE NORTH AFRICANS. HE SAID THAT THE ITALIANS APPARENTLY HAD DISREGARDED THE LATTER INSTRUCTIONS.

6. SEGESSER ASKED WHETHER OUR DEMARCHE WAS INSPIRED IN PART BY US ANNOYANCE OVER THE RECENT EC-9 INITIATIVE TOWARD THE ARAB STATES. EMBOFF REPLIED THAT WE ARE SUFFICIENTLY DISTURBED BY THE ITALIAN/EC-9 MEDITERRANEAN ISSUE SO AS NOT TO HAVE TO CONNECT IT TO OTHER QUESTIONS.
STRAUSZ-HUPE

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